

March 13, 2022

**I am writing in support of :**

S.B. No. 387: An act concerning the recommendations of the Juvenile Justice Policy and Oversight Committee.

**I am writing in opposition to the following bills:**

S.B. No.365: An act concerning juvenile and criminal justice reforms.

S.B. No.388: An act concerning the defense of a person or a persons dwelling, place of work or motor vehicle.

S.B. No.5418: An act revising juvenile and criminal justice statutes and insurance statuses concerning theft of a motor vehicle.

S.B. No. 392: An act concerning statements made by Juveniles.

S.B. No. 5417: An act concerning juvenile justice and services and firearms background checks.

S.B. No. 386: An act concerning a study of the juvenile delinquency laws of this state.

I am a resident of West Hartford, a Marriage and Family Therapist as well as a retired Lutheran Pastor. I'm a member of Grace Lutheran Church in Hartford and a member of GHIAA (Greater Hartford Interfaith Action Alliance). I have worked for the progress made in breaking the cycle of youth going from petty crime to detention to prison. S.B. No. 387 will help our state move forward in this. The rest of them that I am opposed to will work to undo the progress we have made. They are based on a scare campaign of mis-information. We still have far to go and we need to be addressing the real issues of housing, mental health treatment, job training, good public education and early intervention that contribute to many troubled youth.

These bills that I opposed take us backwards to the days of punishment and would overly affect our communities of black and brown people. I also see danger in any laws that give people the impression that they can now be vigilantes, taking the law into their own hands.

I support bill no. 387 because it comes out of the Juvenile Justice and Oversight Committee. Any bills concerning juvenile justice should be vetted by this committee.

Sincerely,

The Rev. Darrell B. Urban. 379 Ridgewood Rd., West Hartford

